

## DOCUMENTATION OF EXTRAORDINARY BIRD SIGHTING

**Species:** Trumpeter Swan; **Number:** 3, first-summer

**Location:** Bays Branch, Guthrie Co., IA

**Date:** 6 August 1994; **Time:** noon

**Name and address:** Thomas H. Kent, 211 Richards St., Iowa City, IA 52246.

**Others before/with/after:** NA

**Habitat and circumstances:** In pond area formerly used to raise Canada Geese

**Description of bird:** These three swans were all white except for a brown wash to top of head and, on one, to the sides of face. They were swimming and walking on the edge of the pond. All black bill with straight culmen. Black extends to width of eye. White feathering extends down to the culmen in V or U. Necks held straight with kink at base. Massive black legs and feet. No collar, wing tags, or leg tags.

I talked to the DNR person who lives in the house at the headquarters. He told, me that these birds had been brought in from Wisconsin this summer and were one year old. Two of the original five had flown off and have been recaptured. They waited too long to band these birds and now they cannot catch the three remaining birds for that purpose. They fly away when they are approached. More birds are scheduled to arrive this fall.

**Voice:** not heard.

**Similar species:** These birds were easy to identify.

**Any one have reservations?:** no

**Light:** noon sunlight looking east; **Distance:** 50 yards; **Optics:** 20x scope

**Previous experience:** many

**References before/after viewing:** none

**Time of notes:** while viewing; **Final typing:** 2 days